Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Sir, all the terms were negotiated and discussed and finally settled before the offer was accepted by Government.

Mr. K. R. Elankath: May I know the reason for the delay in the execution of the agreement?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: The delay is only in finishing the formalities. Government have asked the Law Officers to draft the agreement.

Sahib Bahadur Abdul Tayeb Shaikh Kaderbhoy (*Commerce and Industry South*): May I know whether any advance has been received from the firm?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: No, Sir.

Construction of the transport garage near the Central Station.

2. ***Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair:** (1) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the name of the company or concern to whom the construction of the permanent transport garage near the Central Station is given, with the names of its directors;

(*b*) whether the above company had been registered in Travancore, and, if so, the date of registration;

(*c*) whether the said company had done any construction works either in Travancore or outside till this date;

(*d*) the amount for which the contract is given to the above company;

(*e*) whether the contract amount is to be paid in a lump or in instalments;

(*f*) whether the Government had called for tenders for the construction of the permanent transport garage, and, if so, the names of the companies that had offered tenders, specifying the amounts so tendered;

(*g*) whether any stipulation is made as to the exact time within which the construction of the garage is to be completed;

(*h*) whether any alteration in the design of the proposed building is made by the Government authorities subsequent to the acceptance of the tender;

(*i*) if the answer to part (*h*) is in the affirmative, whether the company had made any additional demand as a result of such change, and, if so, the amount so demanded;

(*j*) whether the said company is a foreign concern and the qualification of the said company;

(*k*) whether any articles towards the construction of the garage are given by Government or whether the company gets them from outside;

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

(*l*) whether any articles are got by the company duty free, and, if so, the amount of duty from which they are exempted ;

(*m*) whether the Government are at present constructing temporary transport garage, and, if so, the reasons for the same ; and

(*n*) the amount that has been spent up to this time towards the construction of the temporary garage ?

(2) Will they be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the contract entered into between them and the said company ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : (*a*) The Combined Construction Corporation, Ltd.

Managing Director—Mr. J. H. Tarapore.
Directors—Messrs. H. A. Tarapore,
J. H. Tarapore,
C. S. Loganathan,
V. S. Srinivasan, and
N. Rama Aiyar.

(*b*) Yes, 5-3-1113.

(*c*) No. Information *re* the latter part is not available.

(*d*) Rs. 96,000.

(*e*) In instalments.

(*f*) Quotations were invited from Messrs. Harrisons and Crosfield, the General Construction Company and the Combined Construction Corporation, Ltd. The last mentioned alone quoted for all items of the work, the other two having quoted only for some of the items of the work.

(*g*) Yes.
(*h*) Yes.

(*i*) No additional demand has been made. But for authorised deviations, payment has been made on the basis of the rates provided in the schedule attached to the agreement.

(*j*) The company was incorporated in Travancore. They are reported to be engineers and contractors for structural engineering, R. C. concrete work, road construction and bridge building.

(*k*) Some materials are supplied by Government for which value will be recovered at specified rates.

(*l*) No.

(*m*) Yes, to accommodate the buses during the construction of the permanent garage.

(*n*) Rs. 7,574.

(2) No.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether the Directors of the Combined Construction Corporation, Ltd., are Travancoreans?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Some of them are Travancoreans.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Will the honourable member be pleased to state who among them are Travancoreans?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: To the best of my knowledge Messrs. V. S. Srinivasan and N. Rama Aiyar belong to Travancore.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know when Messrs. Srinivasan and Rama Aivar became Directors of the Combined Construction Corporation.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: The date of their becoming the Directors of the Corporation is not known but they were Directors when the Company was incorporated in Travancore.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether they become Directors subsequent to the receipt of this question by Government?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Government have no information at all.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: With reference to part (*b*) may I know the exact date when the contract was given to the company?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: The sanction of Government was communicated to the Transport Superintendent on the 9th November 1937.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know when the Company registered itself as a company in Travancore?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: It was registered on the 5th Tulam 1113 corresponding to the 21st October 1937.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: With reference to part (*c*) may I know whether Government consider qualification in building as a qualification for the company to construct the garage?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Government were convinced that they were qualified to undertake the work for which they have contracted.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know the date on which Government arrived at this conclusion?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: After all the tenders were examined Government thought that their offer was the best and the Government after enquiries felt that the company was competent to undertake the work.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Are Government aware of even a single instance in which the company has undertaken construction work?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Subsequent to the answer to this question, I may inform the House that Government have information that the company had undertaken and executed very important works in the Madras Presidency; for instance, I may say that they did the Ponnai Bridge, the Mangalore Dry Docks, the Madras Port Turst Works, the Cement Company buildings at Trichinopoly etc.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Have they done any construction work in Travancore?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: No, Sir.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: With reference to part (*f*) may I know whether Government called for tenders for the construction of the permanent garage?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Government called for quotations. They did not call for tenders.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: How many sent in quotations?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Quotations were obtained from Messrs. Harrisons & Crosfield, the General Construction Company and the Combined Construction Corporation, Ltd.

Mr. Nedumnagad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know what the offer made by Messrs. Harrisons & Crosfield was?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: It was for Rs. 1,19,000.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: With respect to part (*g*) may I know the date on which the company undertook to construct the garage?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: They were asked to finish the contract within three months and should they fail to do so, they agreed to pay a penalty of Rs. 100 a day for the period that they exceeded the three months.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Was it made a condition precedent in respect of contracts that were given to other companies?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: It is certainly one of the essential things. Expeditious construction was one of the most essential things, for the chassis had arrived, the Superintendent had arrived and Government were very anxious to have the service put into active operation to avoid loss on the capital already invested.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : Are Government aware of any companies that had to keep to the time-limit stipulated by Government ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : I may inform the House that the P. W. D. had estimated that the work could be completed only after four or five months.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know the time taken by the Combined Construction Corporation Ltd., for completing the garage ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : In view of certain alterations in designs and specifications, the company had to take some more time. But the company was not responsible for it. The alteration in the design was made by the Government.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know the exact time within which the work was completed ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : A little over four months.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know who suggested the alterations in the building ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : The Transport Superintendent.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know whether the Government did consult the Transport Superintendent before the contract for construction was given ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : Yes, Sir.

President : The honourable member need not go into the details of the consultation between the Government and their officers.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know who suggested the plan for the temporary garage ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : The original plan was suggested by the Transport Superintendend himself.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know the reasons that were given by him for changing the plan ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : The plan was prepared by him in England. After coming here and investigating local conditions, he felt that certain changes were necessary.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : Did not the Superintendent investigate the local conditions when the original plan was prepared by him ?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : He took advantage of his experience in England and the conditions obtaining there.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know the additional amount that Government had to spend as a result of these alterations?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: The contract was given, in the first instance, for 96,000 rupees, and the final payment made was Rs. 1,15,965. But at the same time I may inform the House that materials to the value of Rs. 10,000 and more are still available for use by Government.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know the source of information for Government regarding the capacity of the company to do works connected with structural engineering?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: I have informed the House of the several works they were engaged in and how satisfactorily they executed those works.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether the Government got information about the several works done by the company prior to admitting this question?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: The Government knew that the company was competent to take up such work. In view of the several interpellations raised on the subject here and elsewhere the Government thought it desirable to ascertain the specific items of work which they had executed.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: How did Government know that they were efficient in the execution of work without ascertaining and collecting the necessary data?

President: Next Question.

Lightning havoc to the public offices building at Parur.

3. ***Mr. N. V. Chacko** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Government building in which the Taluk Cutcherry, the Police Station, the Sub-Registrar's Office and the Magistrate's Court are housed at Parur was struck by a recent lightning;

(*b*) the damages done to the building;

(*c*) the cost of the building;

(*d*) whether the buildings was protected by lightning conductors;

(*e*) whether the water pipes attached to the building were conductive or detrimental to its safety?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Building and Irrigation*): (*a*) No; but some damage was caused to th building by storm on 15-9-1113.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly